

Hazardous Air Pollutant Co-Operative Study

Since 2001, the participants in the Hazardous Air Pollutant Co-Operative Study have been providing guidance to projects aimed at understanding hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) in the Phoenix, Arizona area.

The participants are:

- EPA - Region 9
- EPA – Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards (OAQPS)
- Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Community
- Ft. McDowell Indian Community
- Gila River Indian Community
- Maricopa County Environmental Services Department (MCESD)
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)
- Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)
- Pinal County Air Quality Control District (PCAQCD)

The tribes listed above contracted with Northern Arizona University's (NAU) Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) to develop a research strategy for assessing health effects from hazardous air pollutants on tribes in the Phoenix area, with a second mission of performing the same assessment for other economically disadvantaged communities in the area. Concurrently, ADEQ began working with a contractor to process, quality assure, and analyze all the air toxics data collected in the Phoenix area to date. One product of this analysis was to make detailed recommendations as to what, when, and where to collect samples.

Ambient Monitoring

Presently, ADEQ, with cooperation from the Gila River Indian Community is monitoring for hazardous air pollutants at six locations:

- Central Phoenix “SuperSite” (17th Avenue and Campbell)
- South Phoenix (MCESD site near Central and Broadway);
- The West 43rd Avenue site (MCESD site near 43rd Avenue and Broadway;
- St. Johns site on the Gila River Indian Community (Vee Quiva Casino, near 51st Avenue and St Johns Road).
- Bethune Mary Elementary School (1310 S 15 Av PHOENIX, AZ 85007)
- Queen Valley

As part of an initial pilot study, field monitoring began in February 2003 and will continue through February 2004. The basic goals of the monitoring work are data collection (including emissions inventory, VOC sampling, and PM speciation results), validation and analysis. This work will build on existing information in trying to establish which pollutants are of most concern in the area.

Future Plans

ADEQ plans to continue monitor and collect samples from the six current locations. Additionally, plans are underway to expand the current monitoring network to include two more monitoring and sampling sites.

The proposed site locations are:

- Phoenix- Sky Harbor International Airport
- Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Reservation

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